# Utah State Charter School Board Meeting Minutes

# **September 10, 2009**

North & South Board Rooms Utah State Office of Education

## **APPROVED**

Members present: Julie Adamic, Brian Allen, Tim Beagley, Tom Morgan, John Pingree, Scott Smith

Members excused: Yolanda Francisco-Nez

Staff present: Marlies Burns, Paul Crawford, Cory Kanth, Jami-Jon Pearson, Jeannie Rowland, Jo

Schmitt

Others present: Deputy Superintendent Martell Menlove, Steve Crandall, Grey Larkin, MeriJo McComb, Kim Arminen, Karl Vizmey, Mike Westover, Janene Bowen, Kim Dohrer, Alaina Gull, Sol Garcia, Heather

Shepherd, Carolyn Sharette, Joel Wright

#### Call to Order

Chair Brian Allen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

## Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Member Scott Smith and seconded by Member Tim Beagley to approve the minutes from the August 13, 2009 State Charter School Board Meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

<u>Charter School Board Chair's Report</u>-Chair Brian Allen expressed his feelings and thoughts about how pleased he is about the exciting things that are happening in the Charter School world. The new schools that came on line this year, it sounds like most of them got off to a really good start. We are starting to see more and more positive things happening, not just in Utah, but around the country with charter schools.

#### Information Items:

## Presentation of Charter School Teacher of the Year 2008-2009

Kim Arminen, from Summit Academy was recognized as the State Office of Education, Charter School Teacher of the Year for 2008-2009.

#### Presentation of UAPCS Teacher of the Year 2008-2009

Jacquie Chappell, from American Preparatory Academy was recognized as the Utah Association of Public Charter Schools Teacher of the Year for 2009-2010.

#### **Bonding Presentation**

Cory Kanth, Fiscal Analyst for the Charter School Section, discussed bonding options to Charter Schools; those including Revenue bonds, General Obligation bonds and Moral Obligation bonds.

## Action Items:

## **Board Standing Committee Reports**

 Rule Review Committee – Member Julie Adamic informed the SCSB that the committee discussed R277-477-Distribution of Funds from the School Trust Lands Account and Implementation of the School LAND Trust Program.

1

• School Assistance Committee – Member Tim Beagley informed the SCSB that the committee discussed sharing best practices via site/Director visits; review of transfer/exit form required by UCA-53A-1a-50; and TQM and school assistance and early intervention.

Motion was made by Chair Brian Allen and seconded by Member Scott Smith to give the Transfer/Exit form conditional approval based on feedback from the UAPCS with the suggestion the State Board of Education formally adopt the form to be used when a student leaves a charter school; and secondly obtain a list from districts with names of the person those forms need to be sent. The motion was carried unanimously.

## Amendment Request – NUAMES-Changes to charter agreement

Motion was made by Vice Chair Tom Morgan and seconded by Member Scott Smith to approve for recommendation the requested amendment, contingent on the signing of the Charter School Agreement. The motion was carried unanimously.

# <u>Amendment Request – Lakeview Academy-</u>Wavier from R277-459-3

Motion was made by Member Scott Smith and seconded by Vice Chair Tom Morgan to approve for recommendation the requested amendment, contingent to working with the Charter School Staff to comply with statute. The motion was carried with positive votes from Members Brian Allen, Julie Adamic, Tim Beagley, Tom Morgan and Scott Smith, with Member John Pingree voting in opposition.

<u>Amendment Request – Channing Hall-</u>Increase enrollment by 525for 1200 students total by the 2011-2012 school year; 60 students in 2010-2011 and 465 students in 2011-2012.

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Scott Smith to approve for recommendation the requested amendment. The motion was carried unanimously.

<u>Amendment Request – Vista at Entrada-</u>Increase enrollment by 200 for 875 students total, beginning in the 2010-2011 school year. Vice Chair Morgan stated he feels Vista at Entrada is a great example to show why contingency plans are necessary and useful in the planning of opening a charter school.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Tom Morgan and seconded by Member John Pingree to approve for recommendation the requested amendment. The motion was carried by Members Brian Allen, Julie Adamic, Tim Beagley, Tom Morgan and John Pingree. Member Scott Smith recused himself from the vote.

<u>Amendment Request – Weilenmann School of Discovery-</u>Accelerate and ultimately reduce enrollment by 24 students for by the 2012-2013 school year; 92 students in 2010-2011, 49 students in 2011-2012, 17 students in 2012-2013.

Motion was made by Member Scott Smith and Vice Chair Tom Morgan to approve for recommendation the requested amendment. The motion was carried unanimously.

#### Presentations by New Charter School applicants for 2011-2012 School Year

• Baer Canyon High School for Sports & Medicine Sciences

Located in Davis School District – Grades 10-12, total enrollment 1,080 students 720 students, grades 10 – 11 in 2011-2012 1080 students, grades 10 – 12 in 2012-2013

The Baer Canyon High School for Sports and Medical Science's mission is to provide a personalized learning experience emphasizing Health Occupations and Sports Science.

Utah Connections Academy

Located Statewide – Grades K-12, total enrollment 1,250 students 350 students in 2011-2012 500 students in 2012-2013 750 students in 2013-2014 1000 students in 2014-2015

1250 students in 2015-2016

7

Utah Connections Academy is a pioneering virtual public charter school whose mission is to maximize academic achievement for students in grades K-12 throughout the State of Utah who need an alternative to the traditional classroom. In partnership with parents and families, Utah Connections Academy will reach students for whom this innovative virtual approach provides the best pathway to school success. The school's belief is that all students can thrive through a standards-aligned, individualized learning program that combines the best in virtual education with unique technology-based teacher productivity tools and very real connections among students, family, teachers, and the community.

# Good Foundations Academy

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Located in Davis School District – Grades K-6, total enrollment 474 students 424 students in 2011-2012 449 students in 2012-2013 474 students in 2013-2014
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Good Foundations Academy's vision is educational excellence in knowledge, skills and character with strong parent-teacher-student partnerships.

Good Foundations Academy's mission is to provide excellence and fairness in education through a common foundation. This will be achieved by successfully teaching a contextual body of organized knowledge, the skills of learning including higher order thinking, and the values of a democratic society. The chief metaphor of classical education is the journey. The purpose of a liberal education is to lead young people on an odyssey of the mind and heart, which will steer them toward self-reliance. The beauty of this journey is its applicability to the actual development of mind, heart, skills, and knowledge in each child.

They acknowledge the importance of teacher leadership and parent-student responsibility to achieve their ends.

# • Aristotle Academy

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Located in Alpine School District – Grades K-8, total enrollment 540 students 420 students, grades K-6 in 2011-2012 480 students, grades K-7 in 2012-2013 540 students, grades K-8 in 2013-2014
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Aristotle believed education was the responsibility of the state in order to provide virtuous citizens for the continuation of a State capable of securing the happiness of man. He defined virtue as the perfection of reason. Reason being the source of the first principle of knowledge. He believed that teaching should be about some body of knowledge or some discipline, never about interpersonal relationships or the expression of feeling. The purpose of education being to inculcate knowledge about the world and the ability to reason about the world for the purpose of making good citizens. Aristotle Academy will further Aristotle's vision by using the best researched curriculum and methods to improve academic performance. Aristotle's philosophy is summed up in our motto – Truth, Goodness, Beauty.

In addition, Aristotle Academy's mission is to provide excellence in fundamental academic skills of reading, writing and math. The school will follow a strict sequenced curriculum (Hillsdale Academy Curriculum Reference Guide) with emphasis on classroom management procedures to maximize academic learning time.

#### • Cornerstone Preparatory Academy

Located in Granite School District – Grades K-6, total enrollment 525 students

Cornerstone Preparatory Academy, in collaboration with the community, will successfully prepare students for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century through traditional, back-to-basics education. The Academy will provide students with a solid learning foundation in all core subjects with an emphasis in reading comprehension. The staff is committed to assist students in achieving their fullest potential, help students develop a positive attitude and high self-esteem, and enable students to become productive citizens within the community.

# Home Front Academy

Located in Salt Lake City School District – Grades K-8, total enrollment 450 students

The vision of Home Front Academy is to empower students to learn and achieve.

The mission of Home Front Academy is to provide an environment for students, particularly those heretofore being homeschooled, to acquire and utilize powerful learning skills and tools in order to achieve in an academic and social environment and integrate into a boarder society as responsible citizens.

#### Aspire Online Charter School

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#### Located Statewide – Grades K-8, total enrollment 500 students

The mission of Aspire Online Charter School is to offer K-8 instruction with a strong commitment to academic achievement, character development, and leadership training for low-income and minority children.

Because of the many concerns, recommended changes and additions to each of the new charter school application, no decision was made regarding approval recommendation at the meeting. The final decisions will be addressed at the SCSB Meeting in October.

# <u>Adjourn</u>

Motion was made to adjourn at 4:30 p.m. by Member Scott Smith.

1